

CLAIMS

1. A filter, characterised in that the passage cross-section of the filter openings (4) can vary automatically depending on a variable inherent to the medium passing through the filter (1).
2. The filter as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the filter openings (4) are screened or covered over by means (5), whose position relative to the filter openings (4) can vary under the influence of the heat of the medium passing through the filter (1).
3. The filter as claimed in Claim 2, characterised in that the means is a perforated plate (5) with holes somewhat longer than those of a filter plate (3), whereby the perforated plate (5) is shifted under the influence of the heat of the medium passing through the filter (1) by means of elements (7) on the filter plate (3).
4. The filter as claimed in Claim 2 or 3, characterised in that the elements are spring elements (7), which vary under the influence of heat of the medium passing through the filter (1) in the effective length.
5. The filter as claimed in Claim 3 or 4, characterised in that the elements (7) comprise a shape memory alloy.
6. The filter as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 5, characterised in that the spring elements (7) are supported on a side against a fixed edge and on the other side against an edge of the perforated plate (5).

7. The filter as claimed in Claim 6, characterised in that an element (7) is affixed to the perforated plate (5).
8. The filter as claimed in Claim 6, characterised in that an element (7) is assigned a reset spring (8) arranged on an opposite side of the filter (1).
9. The filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised by use in a dishwashing machine.